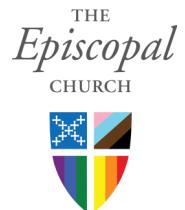




Emmanuel
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
STAUNTON VA



Emmanuel Episcopal Church

**Sunday, February 15, 2026
10:30am**

bringing People&God together
SPIRITUAL●INCLUSIVE●ENGAGED●COMPASSIONATE

Artist and author Jan Richardson calls this day “a threshold day in the rhythm of the Christian year.” It is the end of the season of Epiphany, an a-ha time filled with moments that spark clarity and understanding about who Jesus is and what he is doing. We are on the cusp of Lent, the season of discipline and prayer when we examine the human condition and the new possibilities offered to us in Jesus. While the Feast of Transfiguration is technically celebrated in August, this story falls on the Sunday before Lent every year. Rooted theologically between Jesus’ baptism and his resurrection, it is a wild and mystical story with lots of opportunity for reflection.

Today we are also observing “Shrove Tuesday” or “Fat Tuesday” and eating the traditional festive pancakes! This tradition is rooted in the practicalities of fasting during the 40 days of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday. Early Christians practiced a serious fast for the 40 days, abstaining from fat, meat, butter, sugar, and other rich ingredients. Thus, “Fat Tuesday” was the day that they used up the fat and other perishable rich foods that they would not eat during Lent. What better way to do this than pancakes?

The word “Shrove” comes from the Old English word “shrive,” meaning absolve, and it was a common practice for persons to go to confession the day before Ash Wednesday in preparation for the season of Lent. It has also been common on this day to burn the palms from the previous Palm Sunday to make ash for the Ash Wednesday service.

Thank you for joining us on this Threshold Day. May it be a time of epiphany, joy, sustenance, and connection such that we find the strength to enter the season of Lent open to the call of the Spirit.

PRELUDE

God is in you
And also in you
This is the day that the Lord has made
We will rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome

Prayer

God of glory,
you gave the vision of your Son
to those who watched on the mountain;
grant that by our glimpses of him
we may be changed into his glorious likeness. Amen.

New Zealand Prayer Book

Song

We all need more kindness in this world • Guy Davis

We all need more kindness in this world, we all need more kindness in this world, you may look high and low, but there's no place else to go, we all need more kindness in this world.

We all need more sunshine in this world, we all need more sunshine in this world, you may look high and low, but there's no place else to go, we all need more sunshine in this world.

We all need more peace-times in this world, we all need more peace-times in this world, you may look high and low, but there's no place else to go, we all need more peace-times in this world.

We all need more friendship in this world, we all need more friendship in this world, you may look high and low, but there's no place else to go, we all need more friendship in this world.

We all need more Jesus in this world, we all need more Jesus in this world, you may look high and low, but there's no place else to go, we all need more Jesus in this world.

We all need more kindness in this world, we all need more kindness in this world, you may look high and low, but there's no place else to go, we all need more kindness in this world.

A Candle is brought forward and placed on the altar

Open our minds, God:
to all you have for us today

Open our eyes, God:
to see you reflected in every human face

Open our hearts, God:
to feel your compassion for the world

A Bible is brought forward and placed on the altar

Open our ears, God:
to hear the whisper of your Spirit

Open our hands, God:
that we may do your work in the world

Open our lips, God:
that our mouths may sing out your praise

BLESSING THE FOOD

Bendice Señor nuestro pan
Y da pan a los que tienen hambre
Y hambre de justicia a los que tienen pan
Bendice Señor nuestro pan

Lord bless our bread
Give bread to those who are hungry
And a hunger for justice to those who have bread
Lord bless our bread

WE EAT TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 17:1-9

SIX days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!’ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Get up and do not be afraid.’ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, ‘Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.’

HOMILY

Rev. Kristin Holbrook

SONG

Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord • **Hymnal 178**

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G major (two sharps) and common time. The top staff is labeled 'Descant' and contains a single note. The middle staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -' on the first line, and 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the' on the second line. The bottom staff contains the lyrics 'lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' on the first line, and 'ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give' on the second line. The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

1-4 | *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
 Now we shall live____ for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

Al - le -

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950). Copyright © 1973, The Word of God. All Rights Reserved. P.O. Box 8617, Ann Arbor, MI 48107. Music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel (b. 1950); arr. Betty Puklingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938). Melody Copyright © 1973, The Word of God. All Rights Reserved. P.O. Box 8617, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Fire of Sinai,
lead us in your light

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name;
your Kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

OFFERING

All we have and all we are is a gift from God. We all have a faithful offering to make. All gifts received today will be used to support Emmanuel's ministry, empower our service to the community, and help sustain our buildings. You may place your offering in the Offering Plate, or you can give via this QR code.



OFFERTORY HYMN

Alleluia, Saints of God Arise

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia....alleluia, saints of God arise, Alleluia,
alleluia....saints of God arise and follow the Lord.**

Come and be clothed in His righteousness, Come join the band who are called by His name.

Refrain

Look at the world which is bound by sin, Walk into the midst of it proclaiming new life.

Refrain, two times

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING PRAYER

God, in whose heart is love and justice,
show us this day whom we must love
and what we should challenge or change
in order that your will for the earth might be done.

**Increase our hope,
disciple our apathy;
inspire our imagination,
and deepen our commitment
until we become the signs of your kingdom
for which we and others pray.**

Amen.

Iona Abbey Worship Book

SONG

When the Saints Go Marching In

OH when the saints (oh when the saints), Go marching in (go marching in)
Oh when the saints go marching in, Lord how I want to be in that number,
when the saints go marching in.

Oh when that light (oh when that light), begins to shine (begins to shine)
Oh when that light begins to shine, Lord how I want to be in that number, when
that light begins to shine.

And when they pass (and when they pass) out all those crowns (oh, all those
crowns) Oh when they pass out all those crowns, Lord how I want to be in that
number, when they pass out all those crowns.

And when the an - - gels start to sing (start to sing), Oh when the angels start to
sing, Lord how I want to be in that number, when the angels start to sing.

And when they crown (when they crown), Him King of Kings (King of Kings) And
when they crown Him King of Kings, Lord how I want to be in that number,
when they crown Him King of Kings.

Oh when the saints (oh when the saints), Go marching in (go marching in)
Oh when the saints go marching in, Lord how I want to be in that number, when
the saints go marching in.

BLESSING

May God our maker bless us
and wrap us round
in love and tenderness.

May Jesus our brother bless us
and ask us the questions
that lead us to do justice.

May the Holy Spirit bless us
and fill our lives
with her courage and wisdom.

May we live bravely in the love of the Trinity
all our nights and days. **Amen.**

Iona Abbey Worship Book

POSTLUDE

When the Saints Reprise

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Serving in Today's Liturgy

Officiant: The Rev. Kristin Holbrook

Music: The Worship Band

Lector: Laura Barnett

Intercessor: Elijah Davis

Welcomers: Jim Echols and Bob Wiard

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Blount & Baird	Betty	Teresa	Wayne & Wendy
Jeff	Linda	Jim & Janet	Ruth
Dell	Diane	Karin	Nancy
Fabian	Matilda	Neal	Dan
Jeff N	Lee	Sam C	Paula
Carter	Webster	Barbara	

DEPARTED: Tidge Roller

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYERS:

For the people of St. Elizabeth's, Roanoke and their rector, the Rev. Karin MacPhail.

For Bishop-Elect Karin MacPhail

Our companion Anglican / Episcopal Dioceses of:

-Leeds (*Church of England*), and its Bishop, Nick+

-The Diocese of Haiti

CELEBRATIONS:

Anniversaries: Ray and Virginia Scher, Colin and Teresa Hester

A PRAYER FOR OUR RECTOR SEARCH PROCESS

Holy Spirit, you search us and know us more deeply than we know ourselves.

All our thoughts, hopes, and fears lie open before you.

Quiet our hearts, and free us from opinions, preferences, and perceptions
that bind, divide, or limit our vision.

Release us from nostalgia for what has been and from fear of what may yet be.

Turn our hearts toward your mission and toward the future you are
calling our parish to embrace.

In our discernment, help us seek not simply a leader for ourselves, but the shepherd
you have already chosen -- one who will proclaim your truth with humility,
shepherd your people with love, and guide this parish
in faith, hope, and unity.

The flowers are given by the Roller family to the glory of God
and in loving memory of

TIDGE ROLLER



Ash Wednesday Services

7:30 am Early Morning Ashing Service

Trinity Episcopal Church

12 pm Noon Ash Wednesday Eucharist

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

February 18
2026

7 pm Evening Ash Wednesday Choral Eucharist
Trinity Episcopal Church

Lenten Gatherings

Throughout Lent, we will join Trinity to offer a series of activities to help mark the season: at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of Lent.

Please RSVP for our first event coming up soon!

On Thursday 19th February @ 6:30pm, we will gather in Emmanuel's Fellowship Hall for an evening of conversations around tables about three meals in the Bible. We will have light, middle Eastern foods throughout the table talk.

On Saturday 14th March 9:00am-4:00pm, we will explore and experience various meditative, contemplative practices (for example, Lectio Divina, Visio Divina, Taizé prayers, Labyrinth walk). The day will begin with 8:30am Morning Prayer at Trinity and end with 4:30pm Evening Prayer at Emmanuel.

On Saturday 28th March, we will be at Trinity for a "Bake and Pray," exploring the contemplative act of baking bread.

We have discussion prompts on Lenten themes which we at Emmanuel will use at our regular coffee times after our services.

Sign up using the link in this week's E-News!

Baking Bread

BREAKING BREAD

Community Dinner
February 19



Lent at Trinity and Emmanuel Churches